The New Canadian

THE VOICE OF THE SECOND GENERATION

Vol. V, No. 31 VANCOUVER, B. C. Tues., Mar. 17, 1942

Powell Offices Aid Report Of Property to Custodian

Opening of offices on Powell Street, in premises formerly occupied by the Fuji Chop Suey, by the Custodian is expected to aid in the voluntary registration of property for suitable disposal, and will thus aid in the solution of one of the more difficult problems facing the community in evacuation from the coastal defense zone.

Booths formerly used for dining purposes have been transformed into miniature offices by the simple addition of typewriters and desk equipment. A small staff is on hand to assist those who are anxious to report their assets and liabilities before the evacuation notice is given.

Under order-in-council of Mar. 4, the Custodian has been authorized to take control of property voluntarilty turned over to him, as well as any property left behind by an evacuee. Property vested this way with the custodian is subject to the consolidated regulations on trading with the enemy, which involves approval by the custodian of all business transactions. Disposal of the property is subject to the direction of the federal government.)

Two Forms

Forms of two kinds are available at the Powell Street office, one for those who are property owners, one for those who have only liabilities to pay.

General information is not available here, however, and for general details the up-town office at 1404 Royal Bank building should be consulted.

The forms require the reporting of all real property, that is land and buildings owned. Details as to insurance, taxes, claims title and tenants, and crops sown on farm land are required.

Buildings actually occupied by the registrant, or farm lands tilled must also be reported.

Personal Property

Personal property, including furniture and fixtures, equipment and machinery, stock in trade and personal effects may also be registered. Farmers may report on livestock, horses and other farm animals, poultry, etc.

Bank accounts, bond, stocks, shares, life insurance policies and the like, although exempted in the order for delivery to the custodian, may also be registered on the forms.

The registrant is also required to report on liabilities, including both personal and business debts.

Persons wishing to report their property, and unable to understand the English language, are advised to take an interpreter with them, since no such service is available as yet.

Travel Permits Granted For Approved Cases

Permits to leave the protected area are now being granted by the Security Commission to Canadian-born citizens, provided that applications for permission to travel can be approved.

For a week all such applications have been held up. Permission is now being granted however, to those people leaving voluntarily, who have a definite destination. The destination itself must be approved; and the consent of the local authorities in whatever place the applicant wishes to travel to, must be secured before a permit is granted.

Small numbers of Nisei, both young men and young women, are now expected to begin the voluntary movement to eastward again.

No permits are being issued to enable second generation to return to homes on Vancouver Island or up-coast, since evacuation of these districts is expected to be completed in the near future.

防衛地帯外に移住する許可證の申請を為した第二世が先週以來多數あつたが昨日始めて數名の者に許可があつた

右申請を許可するに當つてコミッションは

(一)行先の確定してゐる事

(二)コミッションの是認した土地に行く事

(三)住民の反對のない所に行く事

右三點を考慮に入れてゐる

晩香坡島より出晩した二世が歸宅を理由として許可申請を為したが現在迄許可されてゐない

晩香坡島の日本人の撤退は近日中に完了するものと思はれる

Entire Park Taken Over For Use As Manning Pool

The B. C. Security Commission announced Tuesday that it had completed arrangements to take over the entire Park area at Hastings Park, for use in the evacuation of all persons of Japanese origin from the coast.

Two little children swung on the handle of one of the main doors of the livestock building in Hastings Park Exhibition Grounds, which had been hastily turned into the dining room for the first load of Japanese refugees from the coastal areas. From inside floated the aroma of fresh coffee and the buzz of voices.

"How do you like it?" The two little children looked up shyly from their small heights of some forty inches and smiled. "Do you like it here? Is it fun?" They nodded.

Once bewildered children, almost taken from their sleep onto boats and other means of transportation on Sunday, separated from their fathers on their first night in strange surroundings, with the ready adaptability of children were now over their first shock, and keenly alive to what was going around about them.... the carpenters busy at work building compartments for the men's sleeping quarters, the cooks in the large shining kitchen grating vegetables, the big trucks coming to the side entrance with sacks and sacks of fresh vegetables. Wonder, excitement and surprise were in their eyes.

"Guess It's Alright"

Outside, on the wet grass, a few twelve-year olds, a little more wise to the ways of the world, were kicking the wet grass, and watching the water splash in the rain pools. "How do you like it here?" A small boy, with his hands in his trouser pockets, kicked his heel against a stone, then looked up, and turned away. Then, as if on second thought, thinking perhaps that a civil question required some civil answer, mumbled, "I guess it's all right."

Young Nisei girls were standing on the main steps conversing in groups, smiling. "Where are you from? Tofino? No, from Port Alice."

WHIRLIGIG

By K. W.

...rfew

CURFEW TIMES

...acific Daylight Saving Time

...fficial Sunrise and Sunset

...d., Mar. 18: 7.21 a.m., 7.28 p.m.

...r. Mar. 19: 7.20 a.m, 7.22 p.m.

... Mar. 20: 7.19 a.m., 7.24 p.m.

◉日没、日出時間(日光節約時間)

三月十八日(水曜日)

日出 七時廿一分

日没 七時二十分

三月十九日(木曜)

日出 七時二十分

日没 七時廿二分

三月二十日(金曜)

日出 七時十九分

...

...rics

...rrent and Choice, as "Time" ...d say, in the local hit parade ...wing up "From an Evacuee" ...hat sentimental ditty revived ... a decade ago. Remember:

...hen it's springtime in the Rockies,
...'ll be coming back to you,
...ttle sweetheart of the mountains
With your bonny eyes of blue,
...ce again I'll say I love you
While the birds sing all the day,
...hen it's springtime in the Rockies
In the Rockies far away.

Ordered to Evacuate, Veteran Takes Poison

SAN LUIS OBISPO, Calif.—Tragic victim of the evacuation from California military zones was Hideo Murata, 52 year old Japanese alien, World War I veteran, who poisoned himself after receiving orders to leave his home at Pismo Beach, where he had lived for 20 years.

Murata served with the American Expeditionary Force in France in the last war, and was made an honorary citizen of Monterey County, when he returned. Found in his pocket was the certificate which declared:

"Monterey County presents greetings to Hideo Murata, and in testimony of her heartfelt gratitude and appreciation presents this testimonial of her honor and respect for your service to home and country in the great World War of 1914-1918.

Shops Closing On Ghost Street

Added to the visible toll of the war now evident along Powell Street are closed stores and shops, hard hit by the various restrictions which have been imposed.

Tuesday the well-known New Pier Cafe on main street, favorite restaurant and counter for hundreds, hung up the closed sign becase of operating difficulties.

Hayami Bros. radio shop and Home Radio Engineers, as well as local garages are being closed each day since the use of automobiles and radios has been banned, while the loss of automobiles has hit cleaners, groceries, fish markets, taxis and transfers.

The Fuji Chop Suey, perhaps the most familiar of all Powell street enterprises, has been closed for ten days. Its once lively booths and hallway, redolent with the scent of Chinese cooking, is now presided over by representatives of the Custodian.

The majority of stores are having clearance and stock-reducing sales, advertising drastic reductions on all lines of goods.

By day the streets are crowded and bustling, by night the hotels and lodging houses hang up the "Full House Tonight" signs.

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Confined To Quarters For Present

As far as can be ascertained, definite rules and regulations have not as yet been laid down governing the movement of evacuees assigned to the manning pool at Hastings Park.

Thus far, all evacuees, upon arrival in Vancouver, are being sent without exception to the pool. First arrivals were transported there in special busses from the docks, and it is believed that this policy will be continued at least for a short time.

Thus far constables on duty at the men's quarters are not permitting evacuees to leave the buildings or the park grounds, although women are being allowed somewhat greater freedom of movement.

Unofficially it is understood that the Security Commission is not anxious to impose strict control of any kind.

As yet, even those people who have homes or places to go elsewhere in the city are not being permitted to leave the pool.

Inspection of the quarters was carried out Tuesday morning, by the Hon. Humphrey Mitchell, federal minister of labor.

Plans for social service work, including hospitalization, nursing and general health programs, as well as working out various recreational projects for evacuees housed at the pool are going ahead.

It was understood that a hospital adequate to meet the needs of the 2500 people, who, it is expected, will be accommodated in the pool, would be established. Medical and dental service is also to be provided.

FRIENDS OF DEMOCRACY

We are not making war against any race or nation, but against a vicious conspiracy. All sincere enemies of that conspiracy are our friends. And democracy needs all the friends it can rally.

—N.Y. Times Editorial
March 3, 1942

Over Thousand Nationals Moved

Removal of some 1700 Japanese nationals between the ages of 18 and 45 from the protected zone has passed the two-thirds mark, with over 1000 placed in roadcamps on the Hope-Princeton road, the North Thompson highway, and the B. C.-Alberta Jasper route.

Latest contingent numbered 45 workers, who left Tuesday night bound for Thunder River, Lempriere and Albreda, points on the North Thompson road north from Blue River.

One hundred workers are now established in a camp 11 miles west of Princeton, and an equal

See "NATIONALS" Page 2

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Educational Issue In Evacuation

(The following is a report on educational problems being studied by a committee of first and second generation under the auspices of the Japanese Canadian Citizens' League.—Ed.)

The educational problem arising from the evacuation of all persons of Japanese racial origin forthwith was divided into its two aspects. First the immediate problem resulting from a considerable number of persons seeking temporary refuge in Vancouver and the Lower Mainland and, second, the post-removal adjustment.

The committee adopted as its policy to make every effort possible to reduce the disruption in the schooling of the children. With the influx of a large number of children from Coast points whose length of stay is indefinite and whose families face unsettled conditions, the Committee feared that some parents would not favor sending their children to school. The Committee recommended that all children be placed in schools immediately as far as possible. This measure, in some cases, would avoid the child's losing a year or half-year if forced to repeat. To facilitate in this placement, the committee urged that transfers be arranged in the usual manner with the assistance of the Committee.

A Central Report Office where parents could register the age, sex and grade of their children was considered helpful to the School Board. The Committee recommends that the J.C.C.L. undertake to supply the staff and organization as a community service.

The Committee had the following concrete recommendations to make:

1. The children be absorbed into the present school system wherever possible.

2. In the case of the Hastings Park "Manning Pool" special schools be considered only when other facilities are used.

3. As a result of some cases such as in Haney and Okanagan Centre where entry was refused on grounds of overcrowding or otherwise, that the Federal Government though the B. C. Security Commission bear all costs.

4. Mr. Yamaga reported that after negotiations with the Maple Ridge School Board an agreement was made to accept outside students upon receipt of fees of $3.00 a month for high school pupils and $2.00 for elementary pupils. The committee recommended that this be discontinued.

5. The Committee urged that wherever possible that pupils should not be moved until the end of the school year, and where this is not possible special examinations be provided to give them credit for the year; such as at Strathcona.

6. Where no schools are available that students be urged to take advantage of Department of Education Correspondence Courses.

7. Where children are placed in special classes special projects be arranged to counteract and make less disastrous the undermining influence of war and unsettled conditions. As far as possible to have normal conditions of community life to prevail.

8. Special provision be made for boys discharged from cadet training, e.g. at King Edward High School.

In dealing with the second aspect of post removal conditions the indefinite nature of the evacuation made discussion difficult. The committee had no basis for concrete proposals but felt that it could make general recommendations.

1. That adequate academic, vocational and cultural provisions be made.

2. When placing groups some consideration of educational needs be made, so that families with children of school age will be placed near schools.

3. That needs of health and welfare be met.

4. That the family be kept together whever possible.

5. If possible communities be specialized by vocations.

6. Facilities for secondary and vocational training be provided.

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BULL Session

This (Censored) Weather!!! ... gosh, the weatherman must've read my epic of last week about "super scrumptious" unquote weather and so on, then, heh-heh'ed to himself and sneered, "So that drip thinks that spring's here, hey? Well, I'll show the jerk ..." which is one way to explain the oh so delightful weather we underwent the last few days. And I remember Arabella once describing rain as "tiny diamonds falling from the heavens" ... yeah, you really feel the beauty of it when your clothes get drenched, the temperature of your hands descend to about 30 above, your beautifu hair-do comes apart, and H-2-O starts a mild waterfall down your face ... ah, it's wonderful ...

Millinery and Me ... all right, you say, so your hair got wet, whyncha wear a hat stupid! ... well, it's a long story ... when God created me, I guess he wasn't thinking about hats ... from the start I didn't take to hats and vice versa. I have a photo of me in a bonnet at the gentle age of seven months and since I was not a particularly beautiful baby, in fact if you want to get right down to it I was quite the opposite which leads to the natural and absolutely correct conclusion that I was a repulsive sight.

And thru all the summers and winters (that have gone, never, never to return, I have not become reconciled to hats and as I said before vice versa. Then some time ago after a rather sodden day I resolved to acquire some headgear, after wringing out three bath towels that I had used in drying my hair. So I went to buy a hat.

With a clerk aiding and abetting me I tried on all sorts and kinds of domewear. A beautiful low-crowned and super wide-brimmed model with a snap brim and red feather came first. I looked in the glass and came to the conclusion that either my not too handsome puss was cock-eyed or the hat was, or was it my crosseyes that made me look like that ... anyway, no dice there ...

So he got out a dashing number and turned the brim up ... you know, sorta off-the-face style ... which result was really gruesome ... you see, it more or less framed my face and brought it (my face) more to your attention (which is, any one of my good friends will tell you, a horrible experience to go thru). So the clerk gritted his teeth and brought a porkpie hat. One of those hats that you can sit on and the shape is all the same ... this kind of hat, quoth he, isn't supposed to look good on anybody so it might do ... so I put it on and turned to the mirror. Then things began to happen.

The mirror winced, moaned and then cracked into a million pieces, the clerk shrieked. "This is too much!" and fell in a dead faint, and two females passing by took one look and screeched: "Frankenstein!" and also swooned. So I don't wear a hat.

But I've tried other ideas though. I got hold of a beanie and plunked it on my conk. Result: if I'd grown a pair of long whiskers, acquired a bevy of Chinese dancing-girls and an opium den, I could have made a perfect second rate Fu Manchu! One thing, I haven't tried a snood ... yet!

Do You Walk on the Right Side of the Dame ... Reading an article that was subtitled Streamlined Etiquette and as usual written by a female, I was stopped by a paragraph that said outside, inside, right side, left side, did not matter at all now. Walking on the outside of your female companion was a carry-over from the days when the fair damsels had to be protected from runaway horses and such. This bright female says that these are modern times and it's disconcerting for a gal to have the escort changing from side to side just to keep on the outside. Thusly, he should stay on the side he finds himself on.

I dunno, I've got into the habit of walking on the outside all the time (when I don't forget) so it seems sorta funny doing otherwise. And what do you girls think?

A Country Editor Views Evacuati[on]

(Marpole-Richmond Review)

Longfellow years ago painted, in his poem, "Evangeline," [a pic]ture of what it is like when a settlement of human bein[gs is] uprooted from their homes and compelled by force to seek [new] habitation. The picture is not a bright one. In fact, it is [one of] the black spots in Canadian history. A credit to [no one,] least of all to the British authorities who carried out the [evacu]ation.

Will the story of the Acadian peasant be duplicated [here in] British Columbia in the banishment of the Japanese?

Public sentiment has lashed itself into a fury which cries ["Evacu]ate them!" and the government has yielded to the storm and [agreed] to tear up all Japanese roots in this area.

Strange that there was no such outcry when Canada [was] busy shipping munitions to Japan these last several years! [The] Japanese militarists, we are told, have enough scrap from [us] to last them four years, and they can of course thank Vancouver for doing its very considerable bit in making this provision for them.

Then these patriots who now so loudly cry for the annihil[ation] of the local Nipponese had nothing to say, so far as we can re[member], in criticism of the U.S.A. in supplying that same mili[tarist] government with sufficient oil with which to wage several ye[ars of] war.

How much of this outcry against the peaceful fisherman [and] farmers who have toiled for thirty years or more here to ma[ke a] home is really fear of them, and how much is jealousy? Is [not] ninety per cent of the storm due to the same race hatreds [that] actuate Herr Hitler against the Jews? Do not those howlers [for] expulsion behold in the present turn of events an opportunity [to] oust from their midst people who have perhaps worked har[der,] minded their own business better, kept the country's laws [more] rigorously, succeeded better than have many white Canadians?

How much of this outcry is patriotism and how much pure[ly] allowed brute selfishness—the desire to get rid of a competitor?

Whether the whole affair turns into the tragedy such as is to[ld in] the sad tale of Evangeline, or whether it will prove a bearable [ad]justment of a difficult situation is up to the authorities who a[re to] handle the evacuation.

Thus far the Jap boys who have gone elsewhere to work [report] satisfactory conditions for them on their arrival. If these Cana[dians]—for they are Canadians by every right of birth—are [well] treated in their new surroundings, allowed to make a living [for] themselves and families, treated with the humanity which [we] would ask for Canadians who find themselves similarly resid[ent in] Japan at this time, then there will be no blot on the record [of] this Canadian government such as has existed since the Aca[dian] tragedy.

But already the authorities have taken their boats away [with] very little compensation, we understand, being granted them [for] their property. Now the flaring headlines loudly proclaim [that] Japanese cars are to be confiscated. Will that be done also [with]out compensation?

What is this, anyway—Hitler's country or a democracy?

At any rate, there is no occasion for the provocative car[toons,] the sneering quips, the unvarnished slurs which at least o[ne of] the city papers sees fit to employ against these boys and [girls] who had no part in making this war and whose approval of [the] war-thirsty government which now presides in Tokyo is pr[obably] as non-existent as our own.

"NATIONALS"

(Continued from Page 1)

number arrived at Hope ... to work eastward on the ... of the Highway through the ... Mt. Allison pass.

Physicians and dentists ... ther, Japanese nationals ... have been granted special ... mission to remain within ... protected area by the Se[curity] Commission as long as ... services are needed.

No indication has yet be[en gi]ven as to when a moveme[nt of] able-bodied second genera[tion ci]tizens might be expected to ... Although provision has bee[n made] to set up a voluntary Cons[truction] Corps for Canadian citiz[ens] ... this step has been autho[rized by] order-in-council, neither the [Gov]ernment nor the Security [Com]mission has given any sign ... whether it would be acted ...

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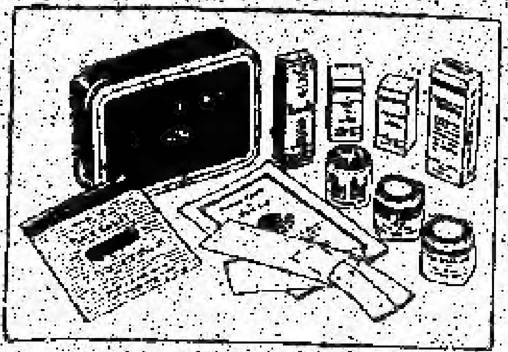

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A Tale of True Friendship

(A true incident, reported by Jimmie K. Kakutani)

n a rural district there was a ly little Nisei girl attending ool. When Shizue was small, ortunately, both her parents ed away, so she went to live n her elder sister who was ried. Last week they were n notice to move to another rby town temporarily. That nt that Shizue had to quit ool. Of course she felt very over leaving her friends, who been so nice to her. No fault ers, but it was another case re another Japanese family obliged to pull up stakes.

hen a few of Shizue's class-es heard she had to leave, too felt very sorry. In fact se youngsters couldn't quite re-e why. For the past several rs they have been attending ool together, day after day, remote from the cares of the grown-up world. Soon word that Shizue was going away travelled from one pupil to another, and many were the questions: "Why is she leaving? Where is she going?" Shizue herself wondered what the answers were.

She was very reluctant to leave but the final day arrived, and she had no choice but to bid her friends a word of parting—a very tearful goodbye.

But her teacher, Mr. Black, along with the pupils, wasn't satisfied in seeing their friend leave with just good-bye. So on behalf of the classmates, Mr. Black presented Shizue with a clock as a token of friendship. With the gift was a letter. I'm sure you will enjoy reading it as much as I did myself.

A Letter of Friendship

"Dear Shizue: We, who have been your classmates for a long time now, are indeed sorry that you have to leave us. We are sorry that these wars have to be paid for by you and me, but we hope that wars will never prevent us from being good friends. May we soon see you again. Forget us not!"

At the bottom of the page were the signatures of the teacher and 35 classmates, who weren't going to let a war break their friendship.

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Wash. Farmers Start Planting Regardless

KENT, Wash.—Japanese of the Green River Valley area around Kent, still awaiting a hint of when army authorities might require them to evacuate this military area, were reassured this week by a statement from headquarters of the Western Defense Command that they would be given a fair share of the financial returns from whatever crops they plant.

Reassured to that extent against loss, many Japanese farmers are reported to have begun planting of lettuce, pea and other truck crops.

The army has asked that Japanese faced with evacuation continue to till their land, as a demonstration of loyalty. Kent Japanese point out that so far this has been impossible for some of their members since they have been unable to obtain credit or financial assistance.

"MANNING POOL"

And to look at them, all neatly dressed in the latest fashions, one could hardly feel that these were refugees, hastened out of their homes leaving those things which were a part and parcel of their lives only a few short weeks ago.

How Long is the Question

Perhaps this is all a camouflage to hide those feelings which are uppermost in the minds of all. Some 250 people, so recently uprooted from their homes, many of them breaking up what it took almost thirty years to build, are making the most of an uncertain situation.

For up to now, the B. C. Security Commission has given no indication as to whether this present home in Hastings Park will be of a short duration, a mere few days, or whether it will be an internment of a long period.

This uncertainty, this fear, this sense of insecurity, is in the eyes of the womenfolk, in their silence as they sit whiling away the hours on their rude cots, in the low murmur of their voices as they sit in their unfamiliar places around the stove in the dining room.

Rows of Beds and Chairs

Almost overnight, the B. C. Security commission has made provisions to house the refugees. The livestock building has been converted into sleeping quarters for the men, a dining room, with a kitchen to the rear. Still smelling of fresh plaster and paint, the dining room, heated from a huge stove in the centre of the room, is laid out camp fashion, with rows and rows of long tables and benches, providing accommodation for hundreds at a time, and where service is provided by volunteers who work in shifts.

The men's living quarters, and women's quarters, situated in the Women's building, are still in the process of being built and are now being filled with bunks, upper and lower, divided at intervals by partitions. At the rear, in one corner, is the nurses' sleeping quarters, which due to the suddenness of the evacuation, is still a bare room with half-installed wash basin, and a cot.

Commandant at the Depot is of the Provincial Labor Department. Assisting is a committee of three, K. Shoji, M. Yanagizawa, R. Suzumoto and three well-known workers, Mrs. Hyodo, Mrs. M. Fukawa, and Mrs. Mizuno. These people, with volunteers and paid workers under them, are confident that after the first wild confusion and strangeness have subsided, things will run smoothly in the interests of those interned.

Reserve Bank Merely To Aid Voluntary Liquidation In U.S.

SAN FRANCISCO (CND)—Lt.-Gen. J. L. DeWitt, commanding general of the Western Defense Command, made it clear today that co-operation, speed, and fairness are the keynotes of this program of evacuee property dispositions and that expeditious handling of the evacuees property is essential because of the urgency of the west coast situation.

General DeWitt and Federal Reserve Bank officials stated that the government does not plan to take title to the property of the evacuees. No property custodian such as is associated with the function of the enemy alien property custodian will be involved.

On the contrary, it is their intention to aid the evacuees in a voluntary liquidation of their property at reasonable prices and to protect them against individuals who seek to take advantage of the situation.

Assume Control

If need be, officials stated, the banks are prepared to take over the control of the property under powers of attorney in order to protect the property interest of the evacuee.

Evacuees are encouraged to come in to discuss their problems relating to the disposition of their property. No compulsion exists.

Bank officials are working in close cooperation with federal, state, and local public agencies that may be called upon for assistance in dealing with the property of evacuees during liquidation.

* * *

PORTLAND GOING GHOST TOWN

PORTLAND, Ore.—The north end of Portland, where a greater part of Roseland's Japanese business is centered, is today a living ghost town. The once lively sukiyaki houses have closed their doors; fish markets are open, but business just pokes along; a few shave and haircut shops have locked their doors; combination bath and laundry establishments have lost a great portion of their trade; and once humming presses of its two newspapers now collect dust and cobwebs of time.

Importing and exporting companies still remain under lock and key, their establishments still bright with the color of Christmas decorations. The chamber of commerce is no longer in existence. Its furnishings have been removed from the premises. Restaurants, groceries, and hotels spread throughout the different sections of the city are operating, but a number of them have been sold at a loss.

THIS IS OUR LAST SHOT IN WRITING

"This is our last shot in writing" was the heading of an announcement made by Bud Fukei, English editor of the Seattle Japanese-English North American Times last Thursday.

The "Times" established in 1903, and oldest Japanese language paper in the Pacific northwest, was ordered suspended by the U.S. Treasury department.

The Great Northern Daily News, however, also a Japanese language daily, is still publishing.

* * *

BASIS OF A TRADITION

. . . but the way we behave in this crisis will be the basis of a tradition that our children will be proud of, if we look far enough ahead so that fifty years from now our granchildren will not have to look back with shame, but with pride.

—W. F.

SUMIYOSHI

BAKERY AND FOUNTAIN

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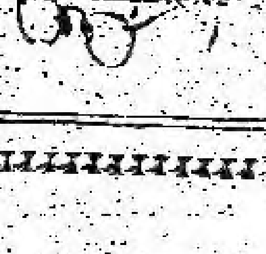

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Femme-Fare

By Cinderella

AT SEVENTY-FIVE

Looking back from my dignity of seventy-five years, (er... that is, when I've acquired that ripe old age), upon the present series of events, I'm a-thinking I'm going to have a perfectly lovely time, reminiscing. Just think of it! I'll have a wonderful set of memories to fall back on.

When I have attained that venerable age of seventy-five, Grandson Freddy (O yes, I'm going to have granchildren ... hundreds of them!) will come home with his face a-scowl. "Heck, no more rugby ... I gotta study for a History exam ... about the evacuation of Japanese in the war ... gee, who cares what those Nisels did in those days ... and what the heck was the B. C. Security Commission? ... Aw gee, Gran, I wish you'd write a letter to my teacher ..."

And then, I shall go to town. I shall say that I was actually alive on that fatal day, December 7th, when Canada and Japan went to war. "And, my dear," I shall say, cuddling the youngest, littlest grandchild on my knee," and at that very hour when the news came over the radio, I was getting fitted for a Christmas Ball ... it was such a beautiful white dress ... and in every seam there was stitched a dream."

My eldest grandson shall ask, his brow furrowed deep, as if he could not quite comprehend it, "Grandmother, did they really hate you, in those day? I can't understand anyone thinking we weren't loyal, can you, Anne?"

And I, from my wisdom of seventy-five years, shall say, "When Grandma and grandpa were young, things were different." My grandchildren--will not understand what bitterness and prejudice, fear and uncertainty really are ... and they shall never know."

"Yes, dear," I shall say, "Soon after the declaration of war, things came swift and sure, and we all felt it. I can remember the [illegible] and the headlines in the paper. Now, let me see ... when was that date? It was the day I was coming home from work, on the street car ... I remember a woman gazing at me rather hostile-like ... it was sometime near Shizuko's birthday ... (Shizuko is your aunt, darling, and Freddy's great-aunt ...) It must have been February." And I shall have memories of worried little Niseis going around in circles ... of quiet Powell Street, looking haggardly expectant ... of fishermen without boats ... of truck drivers without cars ... of men and boys out of work ... separations ... of tears ...

And I shall find little Anne pulling at my sleeve, and saying, romantic little wisp of femininity, and my favorite, for she will be me seventy-odd years ago, "Grandmother, you're falling asleep! How could you! You haven't finished telling us ..."

I shall shake myself from out of my reveries, and say, "O yes, what was I saying? (Oh, so delightfully vague and grandmotherish, you know!) O yes, I was talking about the war. Now, let me see, it was February 15th, when [illegible] ... and there were mass meetings ..."

"O no, Grannie, not that! You haven't told me who took you to the Christmas Ball ... nor whether he liked your beautiful white dress ..."

"O, the Ball ... there was no ball. We put our dresses away ... all of us, your other granny, and great-aunts ... and we stayed at home." And little Anne's face will fall. I can see it so plainly! And she'll exclaim, "Grandmother, that wasn't interesting. I could think of lots more things to do if I couldn't go to the Christmas Ball." And I shall then be very conventional ... and say, "Now, Nannie, none of your pranks. What will your mother say?"

And then, something in her little girl-eyes will speak to me, and I'll up and confess, "Well, I wasn't so dumb mysef. We had grand times, under curfew ... yes, right in the midst of wholesale evacuation, even when people were being uprooted out of their homes ... out of the same homes that you youngsters take for granted ..."

And I shall sit there and tell them of "Candlelight and wine ... kindred spirits ... unspoken thoughts squeezed into an odd hour or two ... whole pages out of a lifetime when we did not know what tomorrow was to bring ... living in the present ... and laughing ..."

"Candlelight and wine?" "You see dears, in those days when the feeling against your ancestors really became serious, we weren't allowed outside between dusk and dawn. There were no more dances, no more late walks, no more visiting ... and so we young ones decided to take it all in our stride. If we couldn't have the evenings, we turned our days into nights."

"O, shucks, Granny, what could you do that was exciting before 7 p.m.? Nothing ever happens worth mentioning here before 10:30 p.m."

"It happened on the eve of the confiscation of all radios, cars, and cameras ... let me see ... It was February 28th ... no, that must have been curfew because I remember saying, 'Why couldn't the government wait at least until March 1st!'"

"Oh, Granny—do hurry ... we've heard all this ... but what about the party?"

"It all began quite casual-like. Granny's friend dropped in with a record, 'Tonight We Love.' Then came her young man—you know Mr. Blank with the corner store—with cake and ice cream. Tomorrow there was to be no more radio, no more music—there was wine, real port—and what time was better for a party than the present?

"And so, while one went to phone some fellow-sufferers, three girls went into the kitchen to open cans—salmon, olives, cheese ... buttered rolls ... crisp salad ... and sparkling wine on the table. Wine! And synonymous with wine,—candlelight! We had to have candlelight ... and so candlelight we had—from two candles picked up at a drug store and set up in two vases! Outside it was still sunlight, so down came our blinds ... and so, 'Candlelight and Wine.'

"Toasts to ourselves—our future, such as it was—and to democracy, and then, with the clock pointing at the quarter hour before curfew, we crammed a thousand dances into fifteen minutes in a 2 x 4 flat. Whether it was the sip of sparkling wine, or the mellowness of curfew hour, I do not know—but it was a marvellous party ... a marvellous party ..."

Here, granddaughter Anne will ask, "And Granny, was it Grandpa who danced the last waltz with you?"

And I shall refuse to answer. How? I shall pretend I have fallen asleep ... and my granchildren will whisper, "sh-h-h ... Gran's asleep" ... and leave me with my memories.

O, it will be fun to look back on 75 years because I shall be a part of these events and these times which my grandchildren (O yes, I'll have them!) will be just another set of dates in a history-book. To me, these will be memories both sad and happy—not mere dates. Yes, I'm going to love being a grandmother!

PUBLIC APOLOGY

The undersigned hereby wishes to make public apology to Mr. K. Kinoshita for his conduct recently. He sincerely regrets the incident which arose between himself and Mr. Kinoshita.

Signed,

Y. Kubodera

★ Hit Parade ★

By a H.P. Fan

Well, people, the song where of the cactus grows, "Deep in the Heart of Texas" has finally hit the top spot, just staving off "Blues in the Night." Last week's surprising hit, "I Don't Want to Walk Without You" is still in the No. 3 slot.

This week America's dancedom welcomed in three new songs, "How Do I Know 'Tis You," "Moonlight Cocktail," and "Miss You", 10, 9 and 8 respectively.

Personally we pluck Diana Shore's "Miss You" as the up-and-comer. And another one we're watching from the corner of our eye is Glen Miller's section, "Dreamville of Ohio."

Even without the radio, fans can usually tune in at one of their Occidental friends, and if the curfew gets you, try CKMO from 12:30 to 1:30 Sunday p.m. for the "Parade of Hits."

* * *

The Week's Listings:

1. Deep in the Heart of Texas.
2. Blues in the Night.
3. I Don't Want to Walk Without You.
4. White Cliffs of Dover.
5. How About You.
6. Rose O'Day.
7. Shrine of St. Cecilia.
8. Miss You.
9. Moonlight Cocktail.
10. How Do I Know 'Tis You.

TOWN TOPICS

Musical Service

A special musical service attracted a large number of young people to the Powell United Church last Sunday, March 15. In charge of the service, the Junior Church Choir, whose unusual growth from a small chorus to a fine mixed choir is credited to the sympathetic guidance of Miss Margaret McDuffee, gave some very beautiful interpretations of favorite choral numbers.

Guest artists were Miss Mary Nishikawara with a piano solo and Mr. Arthur Griffin with a vocal selection. In keeping with the musical theme, Rev. K. Shimizu chose for his sermon, "Songs at Midnight."

Victoria-Haney

Mitani-Okamoto

Mr. and Mrs. T. Mitani, Sr., of Haney, wish to announce the engagement of their eldest daughter, Tatsuye, to Mr. Isami (Sam) Okamoto, second son of Mr. and Mrs. S. Okamoto, of Victoria.

The wedding will take place quietly on Saturday, April 4th, at the home of the bride's parents, and Rev. A. J. L. Haynes, pastor of the Maple Ridge Baptist Church will officiate.

Nisei Players Meet

Beginning this coming Sunday, March 22, the Nisei Players, will hold a meeting every Sunday at the Carlton Clay studios, Granville and Georgia. Everybody welcome.

Steveston Engagement

Dora Tazue Matsuba, eldest daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. Matsuba of Steveston, and Mr. Shigeru "Johnny" Kishiuchi also of Steveston, wish to announce their engagement on March 7. Mr. Kishiuchi is the eldest son of Mr. and Mrs. M. Kishiuchi.

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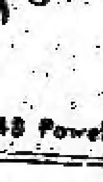

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